



Finnish Center Association

# FCA News

November 2018

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- 02 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 02 Friday Pasty Prep 10 am
- 03 Saturday Pasty Sales 8:00 am - noon
- 04 Sunday Halloween Party 1 pm
- 05 Monday Asahi Exercise Program 2 pm
- 10 Saturday Scandinavian Market 10 am - 4 pm
- 11 Sunday Fire & Ice Movie 1 pm
- 12 Monday Asahi Exercise Program 2 pm
- 14 Wednesday FCA Joint Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 16 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 17 Saturday Swedish Christmas Fair 9:30 am - 2 pm
- 19 Monday Asahi Exercise 2 pm
- 22-23 Closed
- 28 Wednesday Harvest Dinner 12:30 pm



### DECEMBER

- 02 Sunday FASM Concert 4 pm
- 04 Rental
- 05 Wednesday Independence Day  
Cake & Coffee 1 pm
- 08 Saturday Independence Day Dinner 5 pm
- 09 Sunday FinnFolk "Finland In the Trenches"  
2 pm
- 11 Tuesday Little Christmas 7 pm
- 12 Wednesday FCA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
- 14 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 14 Friday Novi Community Band 7 pm  
(during dinner)
- 15 Saturday Finnish Christmas Dinner 5 - 10pm
- 16 Sunday Candlelight Memorial Service 2 pm
- 21 Friday Night Buffet 5 - 8pm
- 24-25 Closed
- 31 Closed

#### Weekly Events

- Finnish American Singers  
Monday 7 pm
- Library  
Open Monday 10 am-2 pm
- Nikkarin Talo  
Mondays 9 am
- Finlandia Garden Club  
Mondays 9 am

#### Monthly Events

- Book Club  
Last Monday of the month 1 pm
- Luncheon  
Last Wednesday of the month  
12 noon

**Reservations are recommended  
for all events.**

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Regards from beautiful Finland where we attended our university alumni meeting. It was nice to see old friends and also hear the latest news about Finland in general. The weather co-operated being unusually warm during our whole visit.

The fall at the Finnish Center is buzzing with activity. The Flea market is always a popular event followed by the Scandinavian Market November 10, 2018. We are looking for volunteers for this wonderful event where all Nordic Countries get together with a lot of fun stuff accompanied with good food and music. Last year we had record attendance and hope to have so this year again.

Elections are just around the corner as well. Members will be electing three new board members in February. We are looking for qualified candidates who are dedicated in promoting Finnish Culture with their enthusiasm and ideas to move the Center forward. Please consider volunteering in this way. We are still looking for a qualified person for our Treasurer. Please consider volunteering one day a week for this task.

Our annual Independence Day celebrations start December 5 with a noon time coffee and cake followed by Independence Day party December 8, 2018 at 5 pm in the evening and a lecture the following day. I hope you can participate in some if not all of the events. Reservations for the evening event are requested. Please call or email the office to make your reservation. We have a wonderful program in the plans and of course the Finnish dinner and desserts. I hope to see you there.

As always I hope to hear from you, call or email us and most importantly come by the Center and participate in our activities. I hope to see you.

Mia Lamminen  
Chairman

35200 W. Eight Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI  
48335-5108  
Tel: (248) 478-6939  
Fax: (248) 478-5671  
finnishcenter@gmail.com  
www.finnishcenter.org

### Officers

Mia Lamminen, Chairman  
Roger Wanttaja, Vice Chairman  
Linda Poirier, Secretary  
Ilona Takakura, Interim Treasurer

### Board of Trustees

#### 1 Year

Cynthia Haffey, Roger Wanttaja,  
Robert Waissi

#### 2 Year

Mia Lamminen, James Lee,  
Mary O'Brien

#### 3 Year

Irene Lamanen, Linda Poirier,  
Ilona Takakura

### Alternates

#1 Paul Rajala  
#2 Carol Tudball  
#3 Mike Fadie

### Financial Review

Nancy Lee  
Maria Lena Kuhn  
Gene Belttari

### Committee Chairpersons

#### Building & Grounds

Roger Wanttaja

#### Cultural

Yvonne Lockwood

#### Education

Katri Ervamaa

#### Finance

Olli Lamminen

#### Gift Shop

Mary O'Brien

#### Mailing

Alice Manley

#### Membership

Fran Fadie

#### Publicity & Publications

Fran Fadie

#### Social

Mary O'Brien

### SENIOR CITIZEN HOUSING CORPORATION

Cynthia Haffey, Chairman

#### *Tapiola Village*

Laura Fultz, Manager  
(248) 471-3802  
tapiola@ameritech.net

#### *Freedom Square*

Theresa Show, Manager  
(248) 442-7250  
freedom.square@yahoo.com



## POKER ALL STARS



The last poker fundraiser for the year is done and we want to thank all volunteers for their time. Special thanks to Gene Belttari who has organized these events for so many years. A big thank you also to our volunteers: Mary Archer, Mark Belttari, Barbara DeLorme, Fran Fadie, Mike Fadie, Larry Gersky, Helena Hatten, Kurt Haveri, Lena Maria Kuhn, Irene Lamanen, Olli Lamminen, Mia Lamminen, Norb Leppanen, Alice Manley, Neil Manley, Aggie McManus, Bruce Mikko, Linda Pourier, Paul Rajala, Mark Rikkonen, Kelly Taurianen and Roger Wanttaja.



## FROM THE LIBRARY



Finnish surnames can give genealogists fits. One person may have used several surnames in his lifetime, or in some cases, no surname at all. Before record keeping began, one could be known simply as “*Matti, Mattin poika, Toukolan kylästä*” (Matt, son of Matt from Toukola village).

A practice which existed in many places in Finland during our grandparents’ era can cause much confusion. At that time, the house carried a permanent name given to it by its original owner. That also served as the address of the house. Anyone living in that house carried that name as a surname. My paternal grandfather experienced that situation. Originally he was Matti Talso from Laihia. He married my grandmother, Anna Liisa Wiikus and moved into their house in Jurva. He then became Matti Wiikus, bearing the same surname as Anna Liisa and her parents. Some time later the family moved into a house named Heikkila, and they all became Heikkilas. Matti and Anna Liisa emigrated to the U.S. and were known by that surname for the remainder of their lives.

A name-change law was passed in 1921 which decreed that “every citizen must choose a surname, and stick with it”. My Aunt Serafia, who remained in Finland when her parents emigrated, married a man surnamed Tuppi. Since he moved into the Heikkila house, he became a Heikkila. When the name-change law came into effect, their son Lauri chose Heikkila as his surname, Asser became a Tuppi, and Jacob chose the surname Koivisto, because they lived on Koivisto Road! Until about 1900 women did not assume the surname of their husbands. My aunt remained Serafia Heikkila all her life.

My husband’s grandparents had a different experience. They were crofters or *torpparit*. A crofter did not own his own property, but was provided a dwelling, or croft, in which to live while he worked for the tenant farmer with whom he had signed a contract for one year. His and all his family members’ surname became that of the tenant farmer on whose property he lived. Their name would change annually if he chose to move from one farm to another, as many crofters did. Birth records show several surnames for my husband’s grandparents’ children, based on which farm each was born. However, when they acquired property, they all assumed the surname by which that property was known. When two of the brothers emigrated to the U.S. each chose one half of their surname. One became a Lehto and the other became a Jylha. A genealogist would find no relatives of this family with either of those surnames in Finland.

Surnames adopted in Finland during Swedish reign were usually Swedish, not Finnish. Johan Vilhelm Snellman, born on May 12, 1806, a Finnish nationalist philosopher and statesman, was an advocate of establishing Finnish as a national language. In 1906, to celebrate Snellman’s 100th birthday, several thousand Finns changed their Swedish surnames to a Finnish form, or adopted a new Finnish surname altogether. Naturally, this can confuse a genealogist when Hornborg becomes *Sarvilinna* (horn = *sarvi*, borg = *linna* (or castle), Forsman becomes *Koskimies*, Sunnerborg becomes *Sunnerpori*, etc.

Probably the most common Finnish-American name is Maki (Eng. Hill). In Finland the name Maki had a prefix. A genealogist must know what kind of Maki (in Finnish *Mäki*) he is looking for. It could be *Myllymäki*, *Hautamäki*, *Kauramäki*, *Kortesmäki*, *Kauramäki*, *Niinimäki*, or any of a dozen or more other *Mäkis*.

One searching for his roots in Finland must be sure he knows by which name the people were called in Finland. In one case a party searched for relatives in Finland, and found absolutely nothing. When he got back to the States and related this to his father, his father said “Well, no wonder! We were not known by that name in Finland!”

(continued on page 4)

**Library** (continued from page 3)

Researching Finnish genealogy can be frustrating, but also fun and in most cases productive because Finns kept good records and they are available to the public.

**P.S.** We need volunteer help in the library. Since no trained librarian seems to be available, I would like to give a mini-course in librarianship (a few hours of one day) to anyone who would be willing to volunteer to be a librarian in our library. This would involve being present in the library on Mondays, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Knowing Finnish would be a great plus, but we can do without that, if necessary. Call me with any questions or if you are interested.

Lillian Lehto  
(248) 642-1437

**ASAHI EXERCISE**

The Asahi Exercise classes will be held on Monday, November 5, 12 and 19. Classes begin at 2 pm. Let's get moving!



**Drive German...**

**Wear Italian...**

**Drink Scotch...**

**Kiss French...**

**Speak Finnish!**

**SOCIAL NEWS**

We have the calendar full with November and December events to enjoy. Sunday, November 4, at 1 pm will be a Halloween party for all. You can dress in a costume or come in your regular clothes. There will a few games and a light lunch with treats.



On Sunday, November 11, at 1 pm we will be presenting *Fire and Ice*. It is a movie that tells the story of November 1939 when Finland was invaded by the Soviet Union. Their fierce resistance changed the course of World War II and saved a democracy. Please join us.

Then on Wednesday, November 28, at 12:30 pm we will be serving a Harvest Dinner. The cost of the dinner is \$10. Reservations appreciated.



Scheduled for December 5 at 1 pm is the Finland Independence Day celebration with cake and coffee. Donations accepted for all events.



The Finnish Center will be starting a group called Let's Talk. We will be discussing the Finnish Traditions and Culture. Various discussions can take place i.e. Our Finnish roots, where did we come from, the kind of traditions you remember in your family. This promises to be an exciting event. Annikki Kurvi will be leading the group. We are trying to schedule a day and time that works for people. Let us know if Wednesday or Friday will work for you. Give us a call at The Finnish Center (248) 478-6939.

Mary O'Brien

## MEMORIALS

In memory of FCA life member **Sally Fetter** (8/20/18) a donation has been made by Carla & Grant Taylor.

In memory of FCA life member **Bernard Los** (5/20/18) a donation has been made by Lena Los.

In memory of FCA life member **Marlene Ruuskanen** (5/3/18) donations have been made by Anonymous and Linda Poirer.

Please make your check out to the Finnish Center Association and send donations to: FCA, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Donations received by the 5th of each month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

When making a memorial donation, you may direct it toward a specific fund. The funds available are: FCA General Fund, Library, Scholarship, Hoijakat Folk Dancers, Drama Club, Finn Weavers, Garden Club, FinnFolk Musicians and Finnish American Singers.

The family of the deceased may direct undesignated donations toward a specific fund (up to one year after date of death).

You may also direct your donation toward the Elders' Housing, but then your check must be made out to FCA Senior Housing Corp.

Please include full name (with middle initial), address, dates of death and birth of the deceased; also the name and address of the next of kin to whom the acknowledgement card is to be mailed.

If you know of a member, parent or child of a member who has passed away, please call the FCA at (248) 478-6939.

The FCA would also like to extend condolences to the family and friends of the following:

### **FCA life member John Manninen (1/2/2002)**

The FCA is discovering members that have passed and have not been reported. If you have information of a member who has passed please take a moment to contact the FCA. We care about all our members and their families.



**CARL PELLONPAA**  
12/31/30 - 9/1/18

Correction: The information regarding Carl Pellonpaa's interview of Finland President Urho Kekkonen stated that the interview took place in 1996, however, Mr. Kekkonen passed away in 1986 so the interview must have taken place earlier than the year stated.

## GET WELL, THINKING OF YOU

Sending get-well cards, thinking-of-you cards and words-of-encouragement cards to FCA members.

Please notify me if you think someone might need warm and thoughtful wishes from the friends at the FCA. Send or call your card requests to the attention of the "Sunshine Lady" at the FCA.

Thank you,  
Eunice Potti Gould



## FCA BAKERS

We were very happy to have 9 bakers helping us on Friday, September 28th. They were Hannah Carlson, Elsie Felix, Susan Marlow and her granddaughter, Chris Martin, Betty Taipalus, Barb Whitty, Lorraine Hannah, and Ilene Yanke. We made our usual 8 batches.

On Thursday, October 18th, we'll bake pulla/nisu again for the Flea Market which will be held on Saturday, October 20th. Workers bring their own lunch, but look forward to eating our freshly baked pulla cinnamon rolls when all is baked. New bakers are always welcome to join us.

Ilene Yanke



## NOVEMBER IN THE GARDENS

November is our transitioning month as we close up the gardens and transition into preparing for the holiday season. We are busy deadheading plants, bringing in statues and preparing the holiday lights. The colors in the gardens are less with many of the trees having dropped their leaves and most perennials now resting. Some of the hydrangeas still carry their pink colors and of course the evergreens look beautiful year round. Birds are in migration with swallows, red-winged blackbirds, hummingbirds, killdeer, and ducks long gone and dark eyed junco and blue jays coming back.



In mid October we had a garden tour/visit with the head of the Michigan Master Gardener program, Mary Wilson, and Wayne County Coordinator, Diedre Hope. Neither had been to the FCA prior to this visit and were impressed with both the gardens and facility. We hope their visit means an increase in the number of volunteers and visitors to our facility.

If you tour the gardens you will notice a number of trees and plants have new labels with the botanical and common names. Some include the note: 'Host Plant for:' if a particular butterfly utilizes that plant to lay eggs and its caterpillar eats the leaves. If you have any questions about any of the plants in the gardens, or would like seeds to raise some plants in your gardens, ask David Sharpe or Gayle Gullen and we would be glad to assist you.

If you have any questions, comments, or donations, you can contact me at (734) 546-5190 or [gaylegullen@hotmail.com](mailto:gaylegullen@hotmail.com).

Gayle Gullen  
Finlandia Garden Club President

## NOVI COMMUNITY BAND

Friday, December 14, 2018



Concert Only \$5

Dinner 5-8 pm  
Dinner & Concert  
\$12

Concert 7 pm

FINLANDIA FOUNDATION 2018 LECTURER OF  
THE YEAR 2018-2019  
FRANK ELD  
FINNISH LOG CONSTRUCTION



Frank Eld spoke at the FCA on September 29, 2018.

**SWEA® MICHIGAN PRESENTS  
ITS 28th ANNUAL  
SWEDISH CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Saturday, November 17, 2018, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Finnish Cultural Center  
35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills

Admission \$2, Children under 12 free  
Lucia Pageant at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

Swedish Food • Home-Baked Goods • Swedish  
Style Waffles • Glögg, Coffee  
& Soft Drinks • Personalized Gingerbread  
Cookies • Great Live Music •  
Open-Faced Sandwiches • Imported Crafts and  
Goods from Sweden •  
Children’s Craft Corner

**SWEA® Michigan**  
is a non-profit organization supporting  
various Swedish cultural and educational activities.  
For more information, call (734) 546-5801 or go to  
our website at <https://michigan.swea.org/> and  
sign up for our Christmas Fair e-Newsletter  
under Xmas News!

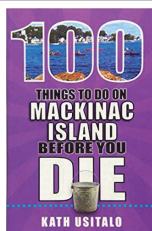
MSU Master Gardener coordinators visit  
Finlandia Gardens in October.



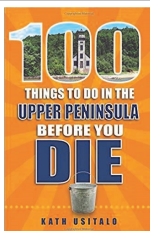
**GIFT SHOP**

The gift shop is getting ready for our Scandinavian Market. We are well stocked with candy from Finland and Iittala has been arriving so we have special things for your holiday gifts. **Our special thru the end of November is 10% off on vases.** We have a few colors cranberry, white and gray. Stop in to see what you can find.

Mary O’Brien



**100 Things to Do  
In the Mackinaw Island  
Before You Die**



**100 Things to Do  
In the Upper Peninsula  
Before You Die**

Books by FCA member Kath Usitalo,  
who now lives in the U.P. Get your copy at the FCA gift shop.  
Also available at Amazon.com  
Learn more about the book at [GreatLakesGazette.com](http://GreatLakesGazette.com)

**FINLAND: INDEPENDENCE  
AND IDENTITY**

Sunday, December 9, 2018  
2:00 pm

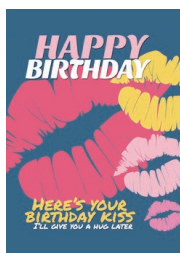
Please join the Cultural Committee, FinnFolk, and the Hoijakat Folk Dancers in commemorating Finland’s independence. You’ll enjoy music from the beginnings of a unique Finnish identity-“Taivas on Sininen ja Valkoinen” and “Finlandia;” through the Winter War-“Elama Juoksuhaudoissa;” typical folk music, dance, and national costumes; up to a concert in Helsinki celebrating improved relations with the Soviet Union, as well as other pieces. Audience members are invited to share personal connections with the songs and dances.

Mark your calendar.  
Coffee and pastries  
will be available.  
Donations appreciated.



**HAPPINESS FUND**

Did you know you can also request a happiness greeting? New baby, special anniversary, significant achievement and more.





The background of the entire page is a blurred image of the Finnish flag, which is white with a blue cross and a red shield with a yellow lion. The flag is positioned on the left side of the page, with the rest of the background being a light blue gradient.

Finnish Cultural Center

**Celebration of  
Finland's Independence Day**

December 8, 2018

5:00 pm

Keynote address by

**Katharina Bäckman**

Embassy of Finland

**Cultural Affairs Officer**

Featured performer

**Kasper Sarikoski**

Sibelius Academy & Juilliard

Jazz Trombonist

Dinner of Finnish specialties

Folk music for dancing by

FinnFolk

Tickets \$50 per person

Children (4-6) \$10

For reservations please call the

FCA at (248) 478-6939

by November 30, 2018

## IT'S CHRISTMAS.....ALREADY?

We are seeing signs of Christmas appear earlier and earlier. Santa used to arrive during Thanksgiving parades and then reign on his throne at stores until just before December 25<sup>th</sup>. Now he comes very early in November. Christmas goods weren't stocked on store shelves until after Halloween had its day. Now green and red holiday items show up at the beginning of October.



When the FASM choir began taking orders for our **Holiday Greens Sale** at the beginning of October, it just seemed too early to think about holiday decorations. However, in order for a Thanksgiving delivery to our local customers from the company, Sherwood Farms in Washington (state), the orders need to be submitted by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. It's hard to get the word out about our sale as well as sometimes difficult to get pre-paid orders from people our singers don't see regularly since we don't have the ability to accept credit card payments yet.

However, it *is* possible for people to arrange with us for greens to be mailed directly as gifts from Sherwood Farms, and that deadline date is later on Friday, November 9! Beautiful evergreen wreaths, door swags, garland, and centerpieces arrive at the recipient's door sharing a little of the Up North and Finnish outdoor atmosphere. My son in sunny Florida loved the arrival of his wreath which signaled the beginning of the holiday season and reminded him of home!

Pro football player Harlan Miller said, *"Probably the reason we all go so haywire at Christmas time with the endless unrestrained and often silly buying of gifts is that we don't quite know how to put our love into words."* Considers showing your love to distant friends and relatives by sending them a Green present this year. It may be too late for some of you to take advantage of the direct ship Greens, but if you would like information on placing an order, please contact the FCA and leave a message with your name and contact information for FASM president Katy Koskela who will contact you.

The Finnish American Singers of course have been getting in the Christmas spirit since early September as we began practicing for the **FASM Christmas concert on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 4 pm at the Finnish Center**. Singing in both Finnish and English we sing about elves (Tontut ja keijut) and angels (Angels We Have Heard on High), children (Some Children See Him) and kings, (We Three Kings), winter skies (Jo joutuu ilta – The Sky Grows Dark) and nature's seasonal warnings (Something Told the Wild Geese), sleighs (Rekiretki – Sleigh Ride) and their drivers (The Man with the Bag), and carols that many remember both from generations past (The First Noel) and more recently (Santa Baby). Despite singing about different types of gifts (You're All I Want for Christmas), ever present is the message of the best Gift we have received (Little Tiny Child)!

The theme of this year's concert, *Sing to the World It's Christmas* is taken from the title of a group of contemporary carols written by Terry Esau. "The holly wreath, the Christmas tree, the smell of pine, a pageant rhyme, and little girls in satin shine, Sing to the world, it's Christmas. Jesus Christ is born today, a song from heaven fills the air. Sing to the world, it's Christmas!" We hope you join us for our concert.

Another opportunity to get in the holiday mood presents itself at the **Little Christmas celebration the second Tuesday of December, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** for an evening of music sponsored by FASM. Singers and instrumental musicians present Advent and Christmas music followed by coffee and baked goodies.

Submitted by scribe, Katy Koskela



Kasper Sarikoski is a trombonist and composer from Helsinki, Finland, currently studying the Artist Diploma in Jazz Studies program at the Juilliard School in New York. His professional career has encompassed a broad array of musical ventures; in Finland he has worked with the UMO Jazz Orchestra as well as many of the country's leading jazz artists. He has also performed with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis in New York. In addition to his work as a sideman, Sarikoski has led his own group Nuance, with which he has toured Finland and performed at various jazz festivals. The band released its debut album "Essense" in 2015.

Kasper will be the featured performer at the FCA Independence Day celebration on Dec. 8, 2018.



## SCANDINAVIAN MARKET

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018**

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Finnish Center Association  
35200 W. Eight Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335  
(248) 478-6939 or (734) 834-6085

\$1 donation at the door

### Featuring:

Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Icelandic and Finnish Imports and Crafts, Baked Goods, Pasties, Food, Handwoven rugs, Decorative Arts, Pottery, Lavender soaps and lotions, Crafts and more.....  
You can also enjoy good Scandinavian food and listen to music by Finnfolk.



## CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, December 16, 2018  
2pm



You're invited to a Candlelight Service to remember those who have passed on. Rev. Elmer Liimatta, of Chassel, and Chaplain Fred Liimatta, of VFW Pontiac Post 1370, have been invited to speak. Dinner will follow the program including angel tree presentations. To have your loved one remembered, please send their name with your donation to Finnish Center Association, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. For information please call Lila Ball (248) 682-6792.



## FINLAND TODAY



*‘Finns appreciate simplicity and honesty in all things. The same goes for our cooking; gimmicks and frills are simply not in our nature. Finnish food = local and seasonal food. Everything starts with clean ingredients straight from nature, and less is usually more’*

Finnish traditional foods were found in forest, lakes, rivers and the Baltic Sea – this has kept Finland from starving for many years in the past. Finns have been harvesting foods from the forest for years and are still doing so, picking berries and mushrooms as they are still free. The wild herbs and edible flowers are picked by chefs and food professionals, such as nettle that is made into soups. The forest has produced great marketable products such as mushroom, lingonberries and cloudberries that are exported.

The harsh climate and short summers did not leave many choices for the farmers to grow things. Finnish farmers had to grow what they could during the short spring and summer and store throughout the long winter months. All of Finland’s farms had cellars to keep their root foods for the winter. This is one reason the potato, carrots, and rutabaga were grown and is a main ingredient of many traditional Finnish main dishes. “Meatballs with lingonberry jam with potato” (*puolukkahillo ja lihapullat ja peruna*) is a true Nordic dish. The rivers and lakes are still used today for fishing and summer cottages would be cooking “salmon soup” (*lohikeitto*) and “smoked fish” (*savustetu kala*) by the lake.

Finns are very traditional about eating certain dishes at certain time of the year. At Christmas they have Christmas ham (*joulukinkku*) with carrot casserole, traditional Finnish rutabaga casserole and potato casserole. At Easter they eat mämmi and pasha and in summer they celebrate the crab season with eating crab at festivals (*rapujuhla*) just to mention a few events. “*Karjalanpiirakka*” is a typical Finnish pastry made of rice putting - rye crust dough is eaten year round. “*Leipäjuusto*” or Cheese Bread with sea-buckthorn jam (*tyrnihilli*) also consumed year round.

It is interesting that there are marketplaces all over Finland but Helsinki has the most well-known. One of the oldest festivals is the “**Baltic Herring Festival**” called “**Silakkamarkinat**,” an environmentally-friendly event. The Marketplace is transformed into a lively maritime-themed set with wooden fishing boats and traditional sailing boats and schooners. The fishermen bring the Baltic Sea catch from coastal towns and little villages. The festival is held in October each year since 1743. It is about tasting, trading herrings dishes, culinary herring competitions, herring master classes and presentations and demonstrations of herring in every imaginable way. “*The Festival is said to stretch the culinary limits to extreme*”. How about a deep plate of piping hot, chili-flavored salmon soup served with rye bread, a cup of Juhla Mokka coffee, enjoyed inside one of those traditional sailing boats, together with a good story teller about the fishing histories and tails? Just a note—Helsinki was just a major trading hub in 1743. Baltic Herring is not what you think – it’s in a class of its own, EU has defined that the herring must be caught north of latitude 59.3 degrees north, and all Finland’s fishing waters are above the designated parallel. Baltic herring must weigh more than 31 but less than 85 grams.

Traditional Christmas markets bring Finnish food culture showcase all over Finland’s cities. As you know we Finns do love to celebrate the holidays. During the week leading to “*Pikkujoulu*” (Little Christmas) in early December the marketplace is bustling with activities and is lit up at night for all kinds of entertainment and food treats such as Joulutorttu, pipparkakut, Joululimppu, Joulupulla, etc. The tori offers unique handmade gifts, delicious seasonal food and hot glögi (Finnish mulled wine, Swedish traditional drink).

(continued on page 11)

**Finland Today** (continued from page 10)

Finland's innovations, how to grow things greener. The Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE) is testing how to grow vegetables in greenhouses more efficiently. Novarbo (Biolan Group) has turned moss into a living sphagnum moss, an alternative to stonewool currently used in most greenhouses. Stonewool has to be sent to a recycling plant and uses a lot of water. Mosswool retains water very efficiently and can be composted. It is also renewable. Collectors for moss harvested in Finland make sure that enough pores are left in place for the moss to regrow entirely within a few years.

And Finally,

Toivo and Heikki were going fishing on a Saturday morning.

Toivo: How was your first day as a salesman?

Heikki: Well, I only had one customer!

Toivo: Did you get fired?

Heikki: Noooo!

Toivo: What did you sell the man?

Heikki: First I sold him a small fishing hook, then a medium fishing hook, then a large fishing hook, then a fishing rod. But then I asked how he was going to go fishing, so I sold him a Chris Craft boat with an twin engine. But the man did not think his Mercedes would pull the boat, so I sold him a Escalade (SUV).

Toivo: You did what?

Heikki: Yap! And guess what? – I got a promotion first day on the job!

Toivo: You must be the best salesman ever to be able to sell a man all that stuff when he came just for a fishing hook.

Heikki: Noo, the Old Finn was sent to the store to get a box of Tampons by his wife. I told the Finn he might as well go fishing and save his weekend. Joo, he agreed.



## ADVERTISING RATES

EADLINE:	<b>DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 5TH</b>
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### *FCA NEWS ADVERTISING RATES & SPECIFICATIONS*

FCA News is published 11 times annually (June-July issue is combined) by and for members of Finnish Center Association. Circulation is about 500 of your fellow FCA members, and others, per issue, and unknown numbers online.

**Deadline/payment for ad is the 5th of the month preceding publication.**

Column (ad) width is 2-1/4" for rates quoted below. Other sizes quoted on request.

Rates for a camera-ready, black & white ad, per three month period:

3 month rate ..... 1" ad - \$30.00.    1.5" ad - \$45.00    2" ad - \$60.00

Pay for full year ..... 1" ad - \$100.00.    1.5" ad - \$150.00    2" ad - \$200.00

Photos: B&W photo ads incur a one-time charge of \$25.00 payable at first insertion.

## READ THE FCA NEWSLETTER ONLINE

**FINNISH CENTER ASSOCIATION**



35200 W. Eight Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108

Prsrt STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Farmington, MI  
Permit NO 250

Current Resident or

**FCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR \_\_\_\_ RENEWAL**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant/Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Are you of Finnish descent? \_\_\_\_\_

- Annual membership, single, one vote ..... \$50.00
- Annual membership, senior\* or youth\*, one vote ..... \$25.00
- \*Senior, over 65 years, youth under 30 years of age
- Annual membership, couple, two votes ..... \$100.00
- Annual membership, family, one vote ..... \$75.00
- Life membership, one vote ..... \$500.00
- Life membership, senior, one vote (see membership for details)

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make check payable to FCA and send to Finnish Center Association,  
Membership, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-5108  
Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

Visit us on “Finnish Center and Hall” Facebook page and “like” us to get the latest updates!



**FCA Senior Living**

One and two bedroom rentals  
Convenient, safe and affordable in highly desirable Farmington Hills, MI

Contact us at:  
Tapiola Village (248) 471-3802  
Freedom Square (248) 442-7250  
[www.fcaseniorhousing.org](http://www.fcaseniorhousing.org)



**THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME**

33603 Grand River,  
Farmington, MI  
(248) 474-4131  
Paul N. Potti, Director